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BOOK REVIEWS

ORIENTAL RUGS, ANTIQUE AND MODERN. BY WALTER A. HALEY. John Lane Company, London and New York, Publishers. Price \$7.50 net.

The interest in Oriental rugs is increasing rather than diminishing and the values are soaring accordingly. To buy wisely one must be forearmed with instruction, such instruction as this book admirably gives. As the author very truly says in his introduction, the further one pursues this study the greater will be the appreciation and delight.

The chapters on "How to Distinguish Rugs" and on "Purchasing Rugs" should prove serviceable to those who are collecting or are buying for use, and the chapter on "Weaving" contains many details which have not previously received the consideration which, in the estimation of the author, they deserve. The rugs of Persia, Asia Minor, Caucasia, Central Asia, India and China are specially treated. There are eleven full-page illustrations in color and eighty half-tone engravings, besides four maps.

In order that the public may, as far as possible, have access to the masterpieces described in this book, the carpets on exhibition in the Metropolitan Museum, New York, have been given prominence among the illustrations.

FIFTY-EIGHT PAINTINGS BY HOMER D. MARTIN. DESCRIBED BY DANA H. CARROLL. Privately printed by Frederic Fairchild Sherman. Price \$15.00.

This publication, which is, like all of Mr. Sherman's publications, beautifully printed and extraordinarily artistic, contains as the title infers 58 reproductions, mostly full-page, of paintings by Homer Martin, each of which is accompanied by a brief description. As many of these paintings are in private collections, the publisher does an inestimable service in thus assembling and presenting them in book form for the art lover. In no other way could so excellent an idea be obtained of the diversity and extent of Homer Martin's talent and of the right

this painter has to the high place he now holds in the estimate of art critics and connoisseurs.

THE HOUSE IN GOOD TASTE. BY ELSIE DE WOLFE. Published by The Century Company, New York. Price \$2.50 net.

This is an extremely entertaining and to some extent instructive book on house decoration. It is chiefly based on the experience of the author and is extremely personal, but for this reason none the less interesting.

Miss De Wolfe tells of the houses she has decorated in New York, of her city homes in New York and of her summer home at Versailles. The chapters on "The Dressing Room," "The Bath," "The Bed Room, Sitting Room and Boudoir" give a glimpse of contemporary life which is as valuable and noteworthy, though perhaps unintentional, as the descriptions of appropriate furnishings. An agreeable contrast to these is the chapter on a "Small Apartment" in which Miss De Wolfe calls attention to the fact that "the 'Model Tenement' offers compact domestic machinery, cleanliness and sanitary comforts at a few dollars a week that are not to be had at any price in many of the fine old houses of Europe." There is a chapter on "Antique Furniture," another on the "Art of Treillage" and finally one given up to "Notes on Many Things." From first to last the book makes pleasant reading.

ART IN SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. BY MARCEL DIEULAFOY. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, Publishers. Price \$1.50 net.

This little book belongs to the *Ars Una: Species Mille*, general history of art series which in time will embrace the output of all nations. It contains 353 pages of text and illustrations, and is of a size to slip conveniently in one's pocket. All phases of art are dealt with—architecture, painting, sculpture, craftsmanship, and the several periods are considered in sequence. Like its predecessors it is an invaluable little handbook, both for those who travel and for those who stay at home.